TREK

TELL ME ABOUT ACTIVE X CONTROLS



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1 Introduction

This document provides a brief introduction to Active X controls. Active X controls may be of interest to TReK users who want to add graphical controls to displays.

2 What is an Active X Control?

An Active X control is a reusable software element.

3 Why would I want to use Active X Controls?

Active X controls provide a way to use graphical objects to display telemetry values.

4 Can I use Active X Controls with Visual C++ and Visual Basic?

Yes. Active X controls can be added to Visual C++ applications and Visual Basic applications.

5 How do I get an Active X Control into my Visual C++ application?

To add an Active X control to a Visual C++ application you would perform the following steps using Microsoft Visual C++:

- 1. Go to the Project menu, select Add To Project, and then select Components and Controls....
- 2. The Components and Controls Gallery dialog box will appear. This dialog provides a way to select an Active X control to add to your project. The dialog provides a list of Developer Studio components and Registered Active X controls.
- 3. Once you have inserted an Active X control it will appear on the controls palette in the Visual C++ Resource editor.
- 4. You can use the resource editor to add the Active X control to your display (formview, dialog, etc) and to set the properties for the Active X control.
- 5. To feed data into the Active X control you simply assign a member variable to the control using the Visual C++ Class Wizard, and then assign a value using the member variable and the appropriate method for that particular Active X control. For example, suppose you have an angular gauge with an associated member variable called m_gauge. To assign a value to the gauge you could use the following line of code:

```
m gauge.SetNeedleValue(msid015 int value);
```

Note: msid015_int_value is a variable that contains a telemetry value that was retrieved using the TReK Application Programming Interface.

6 How do I get an Active X Control into my Visual Basic application?

To add an Active X control to a Visual Basic application you would perform the following steps using Microsoft Visual Basic:

- 1. Go to the Project menu, and select Components....
- 2. The Components dialog box will appear. This dialog provides a way to select an Active X control to add to your project. The dialog provides a list of Registered Active X controls.
- 3. Once you have inserted an Active X control it will appear on the Visual Basic Tool Palette.
- 4. You can use the Tool Palette to add the Active X control to your form and the Properties Window to set the properties for the Active X control.
- 5. To feed data into the Active X control you simply assign a variable using the (Name) property in the Visual Basic Properties Window, and then assign a value using the variable and the appropriate method for that particular Active X control. For example, suppose you have an angular gauge with an associated variable called Gauge. To assign a value to the gauge you could use the following line of code:

Gauge.NeedleValue = msid049 value

Note: msid049_value is a variable that contains a telemetry value that was retrieved using the TReK Application Programming Interface.

7 Where can I get Active X Controls?

There are a wide variety of Active X controls on the market today. Many vendors offer single Active X controls and sets of Active X controls. The following web site provides a summary of many of the Active X controls vendors:

http://www.download.com

8 How much do Active X Controls cost?

You can purchase a set of Active X controls for around \$350.

9 Do any of the displays in the TReK Release contain Active X Controls?

Yes. The TReK Release contains a display called Graphics that contains four Active X controls. The Graphics display is shown in

Figure 1. If you have installed the TReK software, this display will be located on your Start menu under TReK, Examples, Visual C++, Graphics. The Active X Controls shown on this display were purchased from the following vendor:

Vendor: Global Majic Software, Inc.

Address: P.O. Box 322

Madison, Alabama 35758

Home Page: www.globalmajic.com

Voice: 256-864-0278

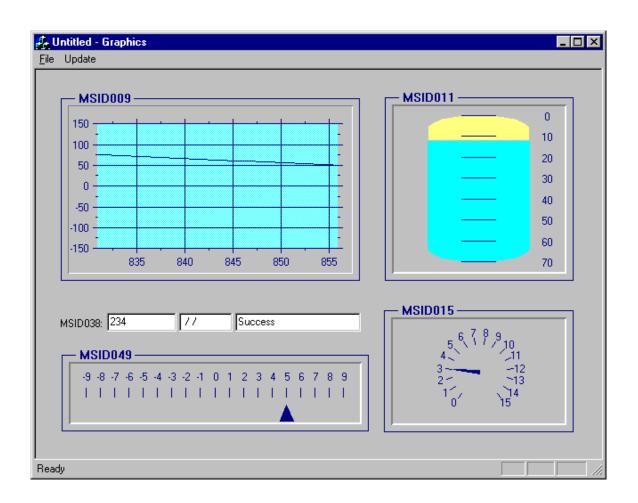


Figure 1 Graphics Display